

Message Text

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60

ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 CCO-00

NSCE-00 PA-02 SAB-01 IO-10 PM-04 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 L-03 ACDA-10 H-02 INRE-00 EUR-12

SAM-01 /086 W

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O R 222224EUAUG 75 ZFF-6

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTO 10045

DEPARTMENT PASS NSCE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT SADAT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER PRESS CONFERENCE

AT MAAMURA REST HOUSE, ALEXANDRIA, AUGUST 22, 1975.

Q: ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE AN AGREEMENT THIS WEEK?

PRESIDENT SADAT: I DON'T KNOW, I HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE
SECRETARY, I DON'T KNOW, REALLY.

Q: WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS?

PRESIDENT SADAT: WELL, AS I TOLD YOU I AM ALWAYS OPTIMISTIC,
WHATEVER HAPPENS, I AM ALWAYS OPTIMISTIC.

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Q: MR. PRESIDENT, ARE YOU MORE OPTIMISTIC THIS TIME THAN LAST TIME?

PRESIDENT SADAT: UP TILL THIS MOMENT, I AM OPTIMISTIC LIKE THE LAST TIME. I DON'T HAVE ANY CONVERSATION WITH MY FRIEND HENRY, YET.

Q: CAN WE ASK THE SAME QUESTION TO DR. KISSINGER, ARE YOU HOPEFUL AGAIN?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: YES, I AM HOPEFUL.

Q: AND THE GAP, IS IT STILL NARROWING?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS STILL A GAP, BUT THAT IT IS NARROWING.

Q: IS IT A MATTER OF PROCEEDURE, MR. SECRETARY, OR A MATTER OF SUBSTANCE IN WHICH THERE IS STILL A GAP?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I THINK BOTH, BUT, AS I SAID, I HAVE THE IMPRESSION SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE.

Q: WILL YOU STAY IN THE AREA UNTIL YOU FINISH THIS AGREEMENT?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: THAT'S MY INTERNTION.

Q: HOW LONG DO YOU EXPECT IT WILL TAKE MR. SECRETARY?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WHY DON'T YOU LET ME TALK TO THE PRESIDENT, OR ASK ME AFTER I TALK TO THE PRESIDENT.

Q: MR. SECRETARY PLEASE. WHAT DO YOU SEE MORE ENCOURAGING THIS TIME COMPARED TO LAST TIME? WHAT'S THE NEW FACTOR?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WELL I THINK THAT THIS TIME WE ARE STARTING WITH THE GAP MUCH NARROWER THAN IT TURNED OUT TO BE LAST TIME, AND, THEREFORE, WHILE ONE CAN NEVER BE SURE, I THINK THE CHANCES LOOK TO ME HOPEFUL.

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Q: IS IT A TECHNICAL GAP OR A KIND OF CONFIDENCE GAP?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: NO, I THINK THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CONCRETE ISSUES WHICH WE HAVE TO TALK OVER, BUT WE HAVE COME SOME DISTANCE IN THE LAST THREE WEEKS AND WE'LL TRY TO COME THE REMAINDER.

Q: WE CAN SAY THE CHANCES OF PEACE ARE MORE THAN BEFORE?

SECRETARY KISSINGER: I'D SAY THE CHANCES OF PEACE ARE MORE THAN
THAN THEY WERE SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, BUT THERE IS STILL WORK TO BE
DONE.

Q: THANK YOU.
KISSINGER

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NNN

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